TPSS 491/711 Class #5 – Importing assets into Premier Pro Projects

In this class you will see how to import assets into Premier Pro change their size and location so that the final video has the talking head as a cropped window to the side of the video frame and the Power Point slide as the main graphic element. We start with a Power Point slide show that has the Page Setup size of 30 inches wide and 22.5 inches in height. The slides are exported as individual files using the save as feature of Power Point and selecting JPEG as the file format.

You setup your PPro project and locate the project file in a folder on external hard drive of the computer you plan to use for your editing work. In the project window of PPro make 3 new bins (such as raw_video, PPoint slides as stills and graphics) to organize the assets you want to import to make your video program. Import the talking head portion of the your video into the raw_video bin and do the same for Power Point slides that were saved as individual files. Highlight the graphics bin and add a new title graphics. Add the title to the front of the timeline for the video sequence and place it on the Video 1 layer. Add the first Power Point slide on the Video 2 layer and slide to the left until the snap feature engages as you approach the title graphic. To view the slide in the Program window mover the time line indicator marker over the slide asset and note how large it appears and only a small portion is visible. To change the size of the slide image and locate it to the proper position on the screen we will need to introduce a new feature of the Premier Pro program called the Effects Control window.

Figure 1, The Effects Control window of Premier Pro, note the size and location values of the Power Point slide with size attribute of 30” x 22.5 “.

To view the Position and Scale values of the slide image twirl the triangle of the Motion effect. Change the Scale value from 100 to 50 and note the size change of the slide image, it is now visible with black borders on the left and right sides see Figure 2.
To move the slide image to the left side of the video frame change the vertical Position value from 960.0 to 720.0. The slide image is positioned all the way to left side of the video frame and a wide black band is present on the right side, see figure 3.

The talking head video of the speaker will be moved to black band at the right of video frame. We will use two video effects to crop the speaker’s video and then change its location to obtain a composite video screen that contains both the slide image and talking head video.
Drag the video clip of the speaker into the Source monitor window and trim it to contain only the video you want to use. Set the in and out points, drag the video image from the Source monitor to the Sequence time line, place it on the Video 3 layer and push it to the left so that it aligns with the beginning of the slide 1 image. Placing the video clip above the slide image will completely cover the slide showing only the speaker’s image in the Program window.

In this exercise we will animate the cropping of the speaker’s image and the relocation to the right side of the screen. To begin, find the Crop Effect in the Effects tab, you can use the search feature to quickly find it and drag to the timeline and release it over the clip of the speaker’s talking head, see Figure 4.

Select the clip of the speaker in the Sequence time line and find the Motion effect, twirl the triangle and reveal the Position and Scale values. Locate the sequence marker at the beginning of the speaker’s clip and click the Toggle Animation button (looks like a stop watch) of the Position and Scale effects. This action will add Key Frames to the clip and allow for animation of changes to Position and Scale. Scroll to the lower portion of the Effect Controls tab and twirl the triangle of the Crop effect and click the Toggle Animation button for all the values (Left, Top, Right & Bottom.

Play the Sequence timeline until your reach the portion of the video where you finish with your introductory remarks that signals the end of discussion for the title slide. This is the point where we want the talking head to reach its final size and location on the screen. Select the clip of the speaker in the Sequence timeline, return to the Effects Control tab and click the add Key Frame button for all the values in the Crop, Position and Scale effects.
For the Crop effect drag the values to obtain an image that contains only the speaker with sides and top portions of the frame removed. In this exercise the final image values for the Crop effect will be: Left = 24%, Top = 22%, Right = 27% and bottom = 27%. Find the Scale effect and change the value from 100 to 51, change the Vertical position from 960 to 1694.0 and leave the Horizontal position unchanged at 540.0, see figure 5.

Figure 5, Effects Control tab with animation settings for image position and cropping. Note the location of “Toggle animation” icon, Add Key Frames, Position, Scale and Crop effects.

Toggle animation, add Key Fames, Crop, Scale and Position effects.

The next step is to add the second Power Point slide to the time line and add the Dissolve transition. You can easily transfer the size and position attributes of the first title slide to all the remaining slides. Highlight the first slide that was added to the time line, right click to reveal a drop down menu and select Copy. Highlight the second unadjusted slide, right click and select “Paste Attributes” to transfer all the frame position and image scale values. The second slide will now have all the Scale and Position attributes of the first slide.